

In the Specification:

Referring to the paragraph numbering in the application as published:

Please delete paragraph 8 and insert the following:

[0008] an open upper inlet for receiving a charge of moisture containing particulate materials;

Please delete paragraph 9 and insert the following:

[0009] an open lower outlet for discharging dried particulate material, whereby said particulate material travels under the influence of gravity from said inlet to said outlet in a substantially continuous manner.

Please delete paragraph 15 and insert the following:

[0015] (b) at least one conveyer for conveying said surface conditioned material to an inlet of a dryer as described above;

Please delete paragraph 20 and insert the following:

[0020] an open upper inlet for receiving a charge of brown coal containing pellets;

Please delete paragraph 21 and insert the following:

[0021] an open lower outlet for discharging dried pellets of brown coal, whereby said pellets travel under the influence of gravity from said inlet to said outlet in a substantially continuous manner.

Please delete paragraph 30 and insert the following:

[0030] FIGS. 6a and 6b are schematic drawings of a drying plant in accordance with the invention;